

3000 Swedish troops, actively pursued Schill, and tranquillity was soon restored throughout all the neighboring country, which had been greatly agitated by his bold enterprise. Schill, after wandering for some days on the shores of the Baltic, was overtaken by General Gratien at Stralsund, whence he was about to embark for Sweden. He made a desperate defence, and was killed after a conflict of two hours. His band was destroyed.¹ Three hundred of his hussars and 200 infantry, who had effected their escape, asked leave to return to Prussia, and they were conducted to the Prussian general commanding a neighboring town. A war of plunder like that carried on by Schill could not be honorably acknowledged by a power having any claim to respect. Yet the English Government sent Schill a colonel's commission, and the full uniform of his new rank, with the assurance that all his troops should thenceforth be paid by England.

Schill soon had an imitator of exalted rank. In August, 1809, the Duke of Brunswick-CEls sought the dangerous honor of succeeding that famous partisan. At the head of art most 2000 men he for some days disturbed the left bank of the Elbe, and on the 5th entered Bremen. On his approach the French Vice-Consul retired to Osterhulz. One of the Duke's officers presented himself at the house of the Vice-Consul and demanded 200 louis. The agent of the Vice-Consul, alarmed at the threat of the place being given up to pillage, capitulated with the officer, and with considerable difficulty got rid of him at the sacrifice of 80 louis, for which a receipt was presented to him in the name of the Duke. The Duke, who now went by the name of "the new Schill," did not remain long in Bremen. Wishing to repair with all possible speed to Holland he left Bremen on the evening of the 6th, and proceeded to Delmenhorst, where his advanced guard had already arrived. The Westphalian troops, commanded by lleubell,

¹ The Baron Seruzier in his *Memoirs* (Paris, Ansel in), pp. 07-112, says that he was charged by General St. Hilaire to follow up Schill, whom he caught in Stralsund, when, to use his own words, "all the troop of Schill was then massacred — a half-hour of combat sufficed." Schill himself was killed by one of Seruzier's corporals, Beckmann, sent into the town before the attack in disguise. This last statement may explain the rumor mentioned by Jomini (tome iii. p. 235), that Schill was killed by his own men.